

GOWNS BUILT FOR THE BACK VIEW

It is All the Fad in Paris to Make
Them Showy in the Rear.

MRS. W. K. VANDERBILT'S GOWNS

Wealthy Americans Are Keeping the
Modistes of Paris Busy, for
Fashions Change Constant-
ly—In Three Materials.

PARIS, Nov. 2.—Mrs. Austin Lee, the woman who is so much talked about in connection with the Castellane yacht trip, on which occasion the countess is said to have become jealous of her fair guest, has set the fashion in backs. Her gowns are built, not so much with front trimmings, but with back decorations. When she goes out she manages to allow everybody to see her back and a long, graceful sweep it is with the princess lines and so she wears a triumph over her less wise sister who forgets the back of her gown in the joy of dressing her bust and front breadth.

Mrs. Lee's gowns are too numerous and exquisite to enumerate. Imagine one of pastel blue crepe de chine, just the gown for the picture show, or an afternoon at a banquet. The yoke is a deep one continued over the sleeves. It is made of black satin and upon the satin there are emplacements of white satin cut in curious curves to look like lily flowers. This same trimming extends around the foot of the gown about eighteen inches from the floor.

The hat with the gown, for all gowns have hats, is made of the pastel blue crepe de chine set in box plaits around a small crown of lace. A very large bird is upon the front of it. The hat is of white felt with white flowers under the brim.

PECULIAR CUT.
But it was the cut of this garment which deserved attention. It was perfectly tight fitting from neck to knee, closed in the back and snug on the hips. The sleeves were cut tight and the yoke was devoid of all fullness.

There is a persistent effort being made to drive the tight skirt out of existence, a movement which will undoubtedly succeed, for the tight skirt is becoming so few figures. Thus it is that one sees, upon the newest designs, a tendency to return to the moderately full skirt.

Your correspondent had the pleasure of viewing the drawings for several very handsome Easter gowns of the tailor-made variety. They were made with very short basque and with a new and peculiar skirt. The back of the skirt was the laid in a large double box plait at the belt line. This gave a very graceful sweep and, as the skirt was more than floor length, it added to the height of the wearer.

The passementerie and the employment continue in style. The former is made of all silk braid and jewels; the latter is of silk or cloth or velvet. A gown of rennaissance lace had small emplacements of black satin applied on the outside of the lace. The skirt fell over a taffeta underskirt of a different color.

Cerise, that most brilliant of reds, is beautifully combined with white in the new winter silks. A cerise and white striped taffeta skirt for reception wear is trimmed with flounces of lace caught by cerise rosettes. You get the effect, brilliant yet not loud, just the gown to make either woman envious. Mrs. Rodman Wanamaker, of Paris, wears charming gowns. They are designed for her own style and are made by the best couturiers of the city of fashion. One of her gowns has an overdress of black rennaissance lace applied with roses and leaves in their natural colors. The softest taffeta was used for the applications.

The day of harsh silks has passed. All



the new materials are soft, the stiff running silks are things of the past and in their place have come the soft satin, the thick, quiet silk and the soft as satin brocade in velvet and panne velours.

Narrow fur bands are used for house occasions, many of the most elegant dinner dresses being trimmed in this Russian mode. Sable is the most favored of these trimmings as it best adapts itself to borders.

WELL-DRESSED WOMAN.
Another very well dressed American woman is Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., who has been seen daily walking in a very democratic way up the Boulevard Haussmann with her husband. It may be accident but more likely it was on account of her desire to avoid the camera. She has been seen in a very often, a friend that she has been most graceful in back view. One of her most graceful pictures shows her reading a catalogue in an artist's studio. Her gown, somewhat similar to that of Mrs. Austin Lee's, is made of white taffeta through which runs a wavy silk line. The yoke is of lichen green velvet with white discs of lichen velvet applied thereon. The skirt trimming is of the same description. The

back of the gown is plain, but up the front there is a trimming of steel buttons in each one of which sets a bow of white velvet.

A gown of nut brown satin cloth seemed especially designed for black display. It was trimmed with the most brilliant Persian embroidery in a single strip running down the back of the neck straight down the middle of the back to the foot of the skirt, which was rather long. The front of the bodice had a vest of cream

chiffon and there was a very charming little hat of nut brown satin and black with cream lace. As this dress was a tailor made one, there were stitings upon the sleeve and bodice and a heavy cord indicated a short tunic. A gray velvet dress was trimmed with milliner's folds of white satin. There was a lace yoke and a hat of steel gray with a brilliant red bow worn with the dress.

Another gown built decidedly for back view had a bodice of white taffeta embroidered with black velvet ribbon. This effect was very novel and while not expensive was decidedly the showiest of many gowns.

The skirt was of rennaissance net lace, black, with large figures of black taffeta applique. It was to be worn over a white satin skirt.

The hat worn with this dress was a toque to match the waist. It was made of white taffeta and on top there were black wings.

A gown of navy blue faille was trimmed with blue velvet around the foot which was put on with handsome white applique which extended in a point up the back of the skirt. This style of trimming the skirt in a point in the back is followed a great deal and always with very good results as it tends to narrow and slim the figure.

NOVELTIES IN SKIRTS.
Novelties in skirts are on the increase. I am thinking as I write of a skirt which was made for the Princess Craykowski, a titled American girl. The skirt, to begin at the foundation, was of soft lichen green satin, with white taffeta lining. It was not trimmed but was very long and well rippled around the foot. The skirt was cut en train.

Over it, to the very floor, fell a skirt of white chiffon, upon which black silk flowers were applied. Over this was worn a tunic and waist of black lace. This black lace was decorated with bow knots of white lace encrusted with pearls. The cost of such a gown is great.

A tunic, if tunic it may be called, was decidedly odd. It consisted of two very long tails about six inches wide at the waistline, and tapering to a very long narrow point. The points were eighteen inches deep or more, and were bordered with white applique to match the applique upon the skirt.

A small but very elaborate bolero was worn. It was of cream lace trimmed with bands of blue ribbon. The bands were arranged in such a way that a tunic button held them upon the sleeves and in the middle of the back.

A fancy ribbon arrangement is a feature of many of the new gowns, and ribbon is turned to good account as a trimming.

Fringe is used on everything, even on the hats, and you see large trims of blue satin put on so as to lie around the crown and terminating with broad ends which are fringed.

LADY MACDONALD'S HOME.
Her Chinese House, Which is Furnished in English Style.

Lady Macdonald was the first European woman to travel by train from Tientsin to Peking and half her journey was made by open truck, says the New York Tribune.

When she and Sir Claude Macdonald first went there, nearly four years ago, they were obliged to finish their journey by horseback on the river, and three days were consumed in going the 90 miles from Tientsin, the seaport, to Peking.

Peking consists of three cities, the outer Chinese city, the next the Tartar city, where the foreign legations are situated, and the center the forbidden city, in which are the imperial palaces. It is in the latter that the foreign representatives have their audiences with the Emperor.

A favorite walk of the European residents is the big wall, 40 feet wide, which surrounds the Tartar city.

The mud of Peking during wet seasons is said to be only rivaled by its dust in dry times, and this wall is happily far above both.

The house of the British Minister is built in Chinese style and was formerly owned by a Chinese prince. It is furnished, however, in European fashion, and when one reaches the interior it is said to be difficult to realize that one is still in China.

The reception rooms, which are all on the ground floor, are all large, lofty and paneled with oak. The ceilings are richly decorated with huge green and gold dragons. The drawing room and spacious ballroom are lit by innumerable wax candles.

The British legation stands in the center of a park containing six acres, which is studded with fine trees. The lawn tennis ground is flooded in the winter, and the members of the legation sport themselves on the ice daily with no fears of sudden thaw.

Sir Claude and Lady Macdonald give frequent dinner parties, at which women are in the minority.

Lady Macdonald manages her own household, and considers the Chinese excellent servants. Her domestics wear dark red silk coats over blue underskirts.

A choir of women has been organized by the legation, which is built inside the Legation walls, and where regular services are held.

She usually summers at the seaside or in the hills, but this year visited England with her husband, reaching there in time for the last drawing room.

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BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT ANDREW

Has Decided to Hold Its Next Convention in Richmond.

DR. A. S. LLOYD AS SECRETARY

Episcopalians Much Pleased With His Acceptance—Japanese Still Remain Intractable—Other Religious News.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew has indicated its preference for its next national convention. This preference has in it some of the patriotic feeling that was engendered by the late war. Richmond has practically been fixed upon, and already there is talk of sending into the Old Dominion, the State in which the first Episcopal church in America was built, and the second Prayer Book Service said, a very large delegation of young Episcopalians from all over the country. A question to come during the convention is whether it is a possible modification of the Rule of Service, to suit ideas obtaining in England, since the Brotherhood is more and more coming to reach the whole English-speaking world.

DR. LLOYD'S ACCEPTANCE.
Episcopalians of all grades of churchmanship are rejoicing over the acceptance of the Rev. Dr. Arthur S. Lloyd, of Norfolk and Mr. John W. Wood, of New York, as general and corresponding secretaries, respectively, of their Board of Domestic and Foreign Missions. The offerings of Episcopalians to missions steadily increase and arguments have been repeatedly put forth by the number of administrative officers of their board ought to be increased. More over the Board has been without a chief executive for more than a year and four men elected to the place have declined it.

The new general secretary, whose duty will be to preside over the church's work actively than any secretary heretofore, being relieved of office labor to a great extent, is a Virginian by birth, education and experience. Although suspected of being of what is termed the Virginia type of churchmanship, there is so much confidence felt in the man that there is no complaint heard in any quarter.

The corresponding secretaryship is the new office. The man to take it is one of the most prominent laymen in the religious body. He has been for ten years the general secretary of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. His retirement at this time does not imply a lack of further confidence in the Brotherhood, although the latter has met some criticism. It is stronger show that the Brotherhood is stronger than ever before, if not in numbers at least in contributions and in actual work performed. It is authoritatively stated that a new secretary will be selected as soon as a right man can be found.

The new office of the Brotherhood is James L. Houghteling, a Chicago layman. The new officers of the Board enter upon their duties at once.

Congregational churches have been so generous with the American Missionary Association that the latter finds itself able to open an additional school in Porto Rico. This third one will be at Linares, where there are now no schools and about eight thousand children. Teachers sent out by the Association called Wednesday, the government forbidding them free passage on one of its transports. To date, and for admission to the three schools, about seventeen thousand children have applied, most of them above fourteen years of age. The same day, the government is also contributing to another society, the Home Missionary, which is soon to enter upon work in Cuba.

MISSION STATION AT GUAM.
The alumni of Oberlin College are undertaking to maintain a new mission station at Guam, the island in the Ladrones from which Governor Leary recently evicted all but two friars, pay the salary of the missionary for five years and put up a missionary home. Other colleges and seminaries where Congregational sentiment is strong, are undertaking similar work, among them Amherst, Williams, Yale, Andover and Hartford. The purpose is to establish a station at Yap, near Mindanao, and from there and Guam reach every island north of the equator between Hawaii and the Philippines.

All signs point to radical changes in the administration of the venerable American Board. Some statements published not long since made a great stir and have been strenuously denied, but criticism is still general, and rumors fill the air. The situation waits action from the new president, the Hon. Samuel B. Capen. The latter was until recently the president of the Committee of Fifteen, a new body in American Congregationalism. He resigned to accept his new place, since he thought the duties of the two positions might conflict. There was some question about the right of the committee to elect a new member to fill the vacancy, but it has been decided by common opinion that a lay member may be added by the remaining fourteen and correspondence is now going on about whom to select. Such new man may or may not be chosen chairman.

DR. HALL'S CHURCH.
The late Dr. John Hall's church is divided into two factions and it is likely to be a long time before a new pastor can be called. The majority party is a large one, but it cannot act because it cannot make a call unanimous and no minister will accept a call that is not unanimous. The differences between the parties are three. One refers to the late Dr. Hall. His friends are in a majority. Nine members of the session left the church. The one who did not leave but was mildly opposed to Dr. Hall, is now the leader of the minority faction. Another line of difference is the famous Warszewiak case. The majority party restored him to membership without hope that the leader of the minority, who is a lawyer and prosecuted him, might take umbrage and leave the church. Instead of doing so this lawyer appeals to Presbytery and now the case is in a way to get back to the General Assembly, not settled but in a more hopeless muddle than when it was there before.

The third difference is doctrinal. The

majority, true to the traditions of the Fifth Avenue church, is orthodox, the minority liberal. A compromise was effected a year ago, both sides conceding a good deal, and a call extended to Rev. Alexander Connell, of London. The call was declined, it will be remembered, and ever since the factions have been drifting apart. Neither seems willing to make the concessions over again. The minority faction has been using the names of the Rev. Dr. Sneed of St. Louis and the Rev. Dr. Ross of New Castle on Tyne, England, to head off the majority, but never with any chance of securing the call for either of them. At the same time it is now admitted that a call cannot be extended to the Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, of London. Membership in the church and the size of the congregation have fallen off, and so have benevolent contributions. The \$100,000 parsonage has been let. Meetings of the session are held frequently, and it is known that much that is said relates to the differences of the distracted and distracting parties. This description, and as it is, is known not to be an exaggerated one.

CASE OF PROF. MCGIFFERT.
Prof. Arthur C. McGiffert, of Union Seminary is now practically certain, unless from some act of his own, to figure in the St. Louis General Assembly next year. Nothing seems able to induce him peaceably to withdraw. As predicted, his Presbytery committee reported itself unable to accomplish anything. The matter was laid over a month, or until December, largely to see what might happen meanwhile. The Presbytery committee recommended that the General Assembly be asked for more specific instructions. As the General Assembly has twice condemned the Union professor, and as he teaches in a Seminary not recognized by the General Assembly, that body cannot do less than give the instructions to proceed with a heavy trial. A large number of delegates, acting in concert, went to the General Assembly last May to secure a vote directing his Presbytery to drop his name, which would quietly have ended the matter. The Japanese government published not many weeks ago some regulations affecting Christian propaganda in the empire. These regulations were followed immediately by some rules published by the Minister of Education. These rules are so long and so detailed that a general meeting of Christian educators was held. These educators passed a resolution which has now been affirmed by all boards here at home having work in Japan, though in doing so members of the board of the situation is a most serious one. Millions of dollars are involved, all of them contributed by members of churches in America.

SITUATION IN JAPAN.
Church boards in this country having educational work in Japan are confronted with the most serious crisis in the history of their efforts there. It will be remembered that the Japanese government published not many weeks ago some regulations affecting Christian propaganda in the empire. These regulations were followed immediately by some rules published by the Minister of Education. These rules are so long and so detailed that a general meeting of Christian educators was held. These educators passed a resolution which has now been affirmed by all boards here at home having work in Japan, though in doing so members of the board of the situation is a most serious one. Millions of dollars are involved, all of them contributed by members of churches in America.

The Japanese government is determined that no system of religion shall be taught in schools. In the empire, it is trying to imitate Western ideas in this respect. In making its laws, or at least in interpreting them by its Department of Education, it takes the radical step of prohibiting religious instruction in schools of all kinds. The missionary boards in this country, representing the churches here, are not ready to say that the Japanese action in regard to public schools is unwise, but they do maintain that schools maintained by private gifts ought to be permitted to teach anything that the teachers of those gifts chose to teach. The teaching is not positively harmful or treasonable. The claim is that the Japanese have gone too far, and the hope is expressed that they can be made to see that they have.

MUST OBEY LAWS.
Things are at a stand still. The laws must be obeyed for the time. And yet the money was given for the maintenance of Christian instruction. If such instruction cannot be given, it is a moral wrong to use the money. The situation is quite unlike the famous Doshisha, for there Japanese trustees having property in their hands as dummy trustees because foreigners could not hold title to real estate, took things into their own hands and changed the Christian institution into a heathen one by changing instruction and instructors. This second action is more serious because it affects all. Those most seriously hurt are Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Congregationalists and Roman Catholics. United action is to be taken to change the decree if possible.

Woman's Rights in the Philippines.
According to a writer in one of the leading magazines the women of the Philippine Islands are pretty well protected so far as their property rights are concerned, and as a matter of fact are better off than their sisters in several countries which are more frequently classified as "civilized." In the Philippines the law regarding the property of married persons is entirely in favor of the wife. The property of a husband is never by chance settled on a husband, and if he is poor while she is well off he can only become at most an administrator of her possessions. After death the property goes to her children and blood relatives, unless she has executed a deed in a notary. A married woman bears her maiden name, but adds to it that of her husband with the prefix de. Children bear the names of both parents. After the marriage ceremony the husband symbolically endows the bride with all his worldly possessions and therefore she can lay claim to that which belongs to her husband and to herself—Brooklyn Eagle.

A Shrewd Move.
Cora—What sense can you see in the game of golf?
Merritt—The sense is displayed by the players in having a boy to carry the big bundle of sticks for them.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

How Things Work.
"New shoes make old ones last better."
"What do you mean?"
"When you know you have a new pair in your closet you feel like wearing the old ones a while longer."—Chicago News.



Woodwin

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